

CORRECTED VERSION

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
28 April 2005 (28.04.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/037272 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A61K 31/4184**,
C07D 235/14, 407/06, 409/06, A61P 31/04

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/DK2004/000679

(22) International Filing Date: 8 October 2004 (08.10.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
PA 2003 01553 22 October 2003 (22.10.2003) DK
60/513,891 23 October 2003 (23.10.2003) US

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,
ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,
ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,
FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI,
SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ,
GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

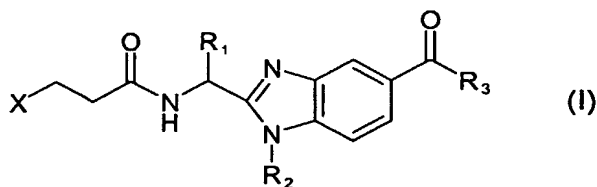
— with international search report

(48) Date of publication of this corrected version:
23 June 2005

(15) Information about Correction:
see PCT Gazette No. 25/2005 of 23 June 2005, Section II

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: **BENZIMIDAZOLE DERIVATIVES AND USE THEREOF AS PEPTIDE DEFORMYLASE INHIBITORS**



(57) Abstract: Benzimidazole compounds of the general
formula (I) and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or esters
thereof are peptide deformylase inhibitors useful in the
treatment or prevention of infections and other diseases
in which peptide deformylases are involved, especially
in the treatment of bacterial and parasitic infections, for
example infections fully or partly caused by microorganisms
belonging to *Staphylococcus*, *Enterococcus*, *Streptococcus*,
Haemophilus, *Moraxella*, *Escherichia*, *Mycobacterium*,
Shigella, *Salmonella*, *Bordetella*, *Clostridium*, *helicobacter*,
Mycoplasma, *Pseudomonas*, *Chlamydia*, *Rickettsia*, *Klebsiella*,
Campylobacter, *Legionella*, or *Neisseria*.